



VETERAN MATTERS

MARION VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

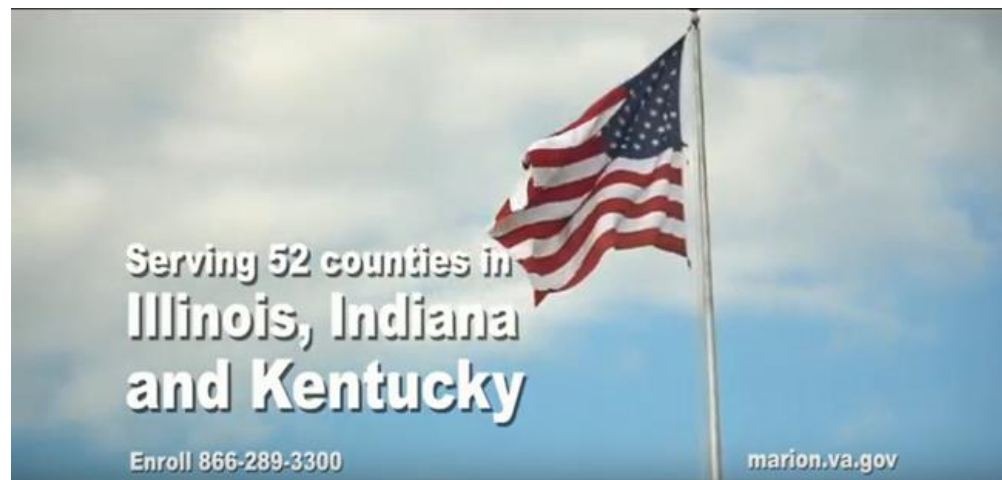
January 2019

Straight From The Director



Dear Veterans,

Throughout the year, we will continue to host a Veteran Town Hall & Resource Fair each month at numerous locations in southern Illinois, northwestern Kentucky as well as Indiana.



We will provide on the spot enrollment, and answer questions you may have about VA.

When: February 20, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Where: VFW Post 1769

2304 South Veterans Drive
Effingham, IL 62401

I encourage you to attend the upcoming event. **VBA representatives will also attend.** We look forward to listening and learning from you – our Veterans.

Straight From The Director



ICARE Moment: We understand that VA can't improve the health and well-being of Veterans alone. It takes Veterans Service Organizations and other community partners.



December 2018, Benton VFW Post 2671 & Thompsonville Middle School spread some holiday cheer by hand delivering cards to Veterans. The story aired on [ABC News, Channel 3](#).



Respectfully,

Jo-Ann Ginsberg, RN, MSN
Medical Center Director

Choose VA...Choose Marion VA



During National Salute to Veteran Patient Week, February 11-15, several activities are planned. A Lab Dedication Ceremony will be held in honor of Volunteer **Bill Curtis** at the Marion Campus, Recreational Hall, at noon. For more information, contact Volunteer Service at (618) 997-4121.



On Friday, December 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, we celebrated the 100th Birthday of WWII Veteran James Bernard Rhodes. The celebration took place at our Owensboro Campus, where dozens gathered from the community.



The event was featured on [NBC News, Channel 14](#).

Suicide Prevention for Veterans: Be There



Supporting a Veteran or service member in your life who's going through a tough time doesn't have to be complicated. We can all play a role in preventing suicide.

If you notice [warning signs](#), call the [Veterans Crisis Line](#) at (800) 273-8255 and press 1, chat online at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](#), or text 838255 to get confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Appointment Access

[Appointment Wait Times:](#)
(Most recent completed appointments).

Primary Care:	2.63 days
Specialty Care:	7.91 days
Mental Health:	3.43 days

Care in the Community (CITC): In fiscal year 2018, Marion VA Health Care System obligated/authorized \$95,830,036.



Why Choose VA...Marion VA?



Because no one knows Veterans like we do!



And just in case you missed it, check out our videos:

[The Empty Chair](#)

[Why Marion VA?](#)

For more information, contact the Public Affairs Officer:
Kevin.Harris7@va.gov, 618.997.8241.

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Executive Leadership Team

Medical Center Director: **Jo-Ann Ginsberg**, RN, MSN

Associate Director: **Seth Barlage**, MHA

Chief of Staff: **Shawn Lynchard**, MD, FACC, FACP

Nurse Executive: **Roberta Patterson**, RN, MSN